

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form**  
**Intercounty Connector Project**

Survey No. M:15-78 (PACS D2.22)

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

**1. Name:** (indicate preferred name)

historic Richard Waters Property

and/or common Magnum Property

**2. Location:**

street & number 3838 Bell Road ☐ not for publication

city, town Burtonsville ☐ vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Montgomery

**3. Classification:**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> education <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> religious
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation

**4. Owner of Property:** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Robert T. and Shirley B. Magnum

street & number P.O. Box 132; 3838 Bell Road telephone no.:

city,town Burtonsville state and zip code Maryland 20866

**5. Location of Legal Description**

Land Records Office of Montgomery County liber 5791

street & number Montgomery County Judicial Center folio 884

city,town Rockville state MD

**6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys**

title N/A

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city,town state

## 7. Description

Survey No. M:15-78 (PACS D2.22)

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Resource Count: 2

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Constructed circa 1880, the Richard Waters Property is a 2-story, 3-bay, side-gable structure with several additions and a 1-story full-width porch. The asymmetrical fenestration pattern of the front facade indicates the original house was likely a 2-bay I-house, with the third bay added at a later date. In addition, the placement of one brick chimney at the gable end and the other in the interior of the structure, suggests that the chimneys were originally symmetrically located in the end walls. The structure is clad in vinyl siding and has an asphalt shingle roof.

The south, or front facade has a 1-story, full-width, hipped roof porch with an open railing, turned posts, and decorative brackets. The first story has a door and two 1/1 double-hung windows and the second story has three 1/1 double-hung windows.

The west elevation has a projecting canted bay on the first story with three 1/1 windows. The second story has one 1/1 window and an attic vent in the gable end.

The north elevation has a modern 1-story wing which extends to the east. A second 1-story modern wing extends north from the first wing and has a projecting bay window and an exterior chimney. Both wings have several skylights.

The east elevation has two 1/1 double-hung windows on both the first and second stories, and there is an attic vent in the gable end.

There is one outbuilding associated with the property. It is a modern frame shed with board-and-batten siding and a concrete masonry foundation. The structure is 2-stories and has a gambrel roof with a shed roof addition. It is located north of the house.

The Richard Waters Property is located at the northwest corner of the intersection of Route 29 and Bell Road. A small private road also curves around the property to the east and north. The house has a large front and back yard, and careful landscaping of the lot has reduced, but not eliminated, the visual impact and background noise of traffic on Route 29.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. M:15-78 (PACS D2.22)

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archaeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> music	humanitarian	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communication	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
			<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)	

Specific dates circa 1880

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D  
and/or  
Applicable Exceptions: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D  
Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Richard Waters Property does not appear on the 1879 Hopkins Atlas of Montgomery County. The earliest reference to the property indicates that Thomas Waters of Samuel sold 60.7 hectares (150 acres) of land to Miles A. Krusen in 1868. In 1875, Krusen sold the land back to Waters. Waters and his wife, Martha, subsequently conveyed the same land to Richard Waters. It was during this time that the house was constructed. Richard Waters then sold the parcel to Rebecca Parsly in 1900. In 1906, Rebecca Parsly and her husband, William, sold the parcel to Rebecca Bryan, who then sold 4.2 hectares (10.4 acres) of the land to John and Julia Beall. The Bealls sold this parcel, along with an adjacent parcel containing 9.8 hectares (24.25 acres), to Hughey and Lyda Beall in 1950. Hughey Beall sold the property to Robert D. Kline and his wife, Janice, in 1974, and the Klines, in turn, sold part of it to Robert and Shirley Magnum, the present owners, in 1981.

The Richard Waters Property is located near Burtonsville, on land originally patented in 1703 as "Bear Bacon" and in 1715 as "Snowden's New Birmingham Manor" in what was then Prince George's County. "Bear Bacon" was approximately 245 hectares (605 acres) of land stretching from present Oursler Road to Old Columbia Pike. "Snowden's New Birmingham Manor" was approximately 1214 hectares (3000 acres) of land from Old Columbia Pike to the present city of Laurel, and from south of Greencastle and Van Dusen Roads to north of Sandy Spring Road. Later additions to the patent north and northwest of the present junction of U.S. 29 and MD. 198 eventually covered 3749 hectares (9265 acres) by 1743. (Geraci, Walker and Donnary 1976: 4; Cook, 1976: 270-271). As settlement in the new county increased, the need for improved roads became apparent. The Columbia Turnpike Company was chartered in 1809 to build a road from Georgetown, D.C. to Ellicott's Mills, and construction began in 1810 (present U.S. 29 and Old Columbia Pike follow the route of this original road) (Hiebert and MacMaster 1976, 107).

Burton family records indicate that their ancestors settled in the area by 1707. Basil Burton settled east of the turnpike in 1817. Basil's son, Isaac, considered the founder of the community, bought out his family's share of his father's land in 1825, and by 1850 the crossroads of the Columbia Turnpike and the Laurel-Sandy Spring Road was known as Burtons. The community remained small and rural in the decades after the Civil War. It had a population of about fifty people, a Baptist church, a blacksmith shop, a schoolhouse, and store (Dixon-Williams 1994, A-4).

Montgomery County remained predominantly rural as the twentieth century began. The extension of Washington trolley lines encouraged development close to the District line, but population growth fell below national averages and some areas of the county experienced declining population. Road

## CONTINUATION SHEET

### MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

### STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Richard Waters Property

SURVEY NO.: M:15-78 (PACS D2.22)

ADDRESS: 3838 Bell Road, Burtonsville, Montgomery County

## 8. Significance (Continued)

improvements and the increase in the size of the federal government began to reverse that trend after the First World War, but Burtonsville remained a small crossroads. In the 1920s the buildings within the community did not have indoor plumbing, electricity was a luxury, and the only telephone was in the general store (Daniels). The Great Depression caused much hardship among the area's farmers; farm prices fell drastically and the county could not afford to improve roads, utilities, and schools. Burtonsville did not benefit from the increase in federal employment brought by the New Deal.

The Second World War and the following Cold War completely changed the character of the county. The federal government expanded dramatically, and southern Montgomery County experienced tremendous growth as new government agencies and new industries located there. Farmland rapidly decreased overall as new housing and retail centers were developed. By the mid 1970s, over half of the remaining farmland was devoted to grazing for dairy and beef cattle, rather than for crops (Hiebert and MacMaster 1976).

During this time the size of Burtonsville increased gradually as the Washington suburbs spread further north, and large employers located their operations in Silver Spring, northern Prince George's and neighboring Howard County. Shopping centers and widened roads replaced the historic crossroads. A 1960s master plan for the Fairland-Beltsville corridor marked eastern parts of Burtonsville as an "employment center" for the area. However, even though public utilities were extended to the community in the early 1970s, a sewer moratorium was imposed before extensive development occurred. Land unsuitable for septic systems also slowed growth in the Burtonsville area (Daniels).

In the 1980s, continued growth of federal and private sector employment and the new U.S. 29 highway made Burtonsville accessible to new residents and commercial development. Today Burtonsville retains a rural character. Old working farms still remain, but the area is becoming one of the major suburban centers outside of Washington, D.C.

Although the structure may reflect an earlier period of construction, the Richard Waters Property's current appearance is typical of the vernacular cottage style of the late nineteenth century. Between 1870 and 1940 the vernacular cottage style was typically built for Americans of modest means. They are characterized by simple ornamentation and mass-produced components, such as door frames, moldings, sash and window units, and porch decoration. The development of post-Civil War machinery capable of producing large amounts of standardized housing elements, such as those found in cottages, contributed greatly to the development of the modern American housing industry. Designs for vernacular cottages were obtained from popular magazines, such as House Beautiful, or carpenter's and builder's journals, such as American Builder. A variety of front-gabled, side-gable, cross-gable and hipped roof frame cottages were developed in the early to mid-twentieth century. Front gable and hipped roof cottages are primarily one-and-a-half to two stories tall, 3 bays wide and several rooms deep. Side-gable and cross-gable structures are usually two to two-and-a-half-stories tall, are typically two to three bays in width and vary from one to three rooms deep. They usually include a porch covered with a shed roof. Porches are supported by posts often containing machine-produced Victorian ornamentation. Some cottages feature ornamentation drawn from Craftsman style or Colonial Revival architecture (Gottfried and Jennings 1988, viii-xv).

CONTINUATION SHEET

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ADDRESS: 3838 Bell Road, Burtonsville, Montgomery County

## 8. Significance (Continued)

### National Register Evaluation:

Constructed circa 1880, the Richard Waters Property is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The property does not meet Criterion A or B, as it has no known association with historically significant persons or events. It is not eligible under Criterion C, as its integrity has been severely compromised through extensive alterations and additions. The property's material integrity has been altered through the installation of vinyl siding and aluminum windows. In addition, the massing of the structure has been significantly modified by the construction of two large additions which dominate the east and north elevations. Finally, the structure has no known potential to yield important information, and therefore, is not eligible under Criterion D.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Eligibility recommended \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility Not Recommended \_\_\_\_\_

Comments \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Reviewer, OPS: *Arthur H. Hines*

Date: *6/10/02*

Reviewer, NR Program: *Arthur H. Hines*

Date: *6/10/02*



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## 9. Major Bibliographical References Survey No.M:15-78(PACS D2.22)

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See Attached

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name Beltsville

Quadrangle scale 1: 24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

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List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

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name/title Caroline Hall/Ryan McKay

organization P.A.C. Spero & Company

date October 1996

street & number 40 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 412

telephone (410) 296-1635

city or town Baltimore

state Maryland

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The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposed only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCP/DHCD  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
(410) 514-7600

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Richard Waters Property

SURVEY NO.: M:15-78 (PACS D2.22)

ADDRESS: 3838 Bell Road, Burtonsville, Montgomery County

## 9. Major Bibliographical References (Continued)

- Boyd, T.H.S. The History of Montgomery County, Maryland, From its Earliest Settlement in 1650 to 1879. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Company, 1968.
- Brugger, Robert A. Maryland, A Middle Temperament 1634-1980. Baltimore and London: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1988.
- Coleman, Margaret Marshall. Montgomery County: A Pictorial History. Norfolk and Virginia Beach: The Donning Company Publishers, 1984, rev. 1990.
- Daniels, Lee A. "Burtonsville: A town of the past trapped between the future." Washington Post. no date.
- Dixon-Williams, Gail. "Originally Burtons, this suburb has come a long way from 1800's." Burtonsville Gazette, 14 September 1994: A-4.
- Farquhar, Roger Brooke. Old Homes and History of Montgomery County, Maryland. Washington: Judd and Detweiler, Inc., 1962.
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- Gottfried, Herbert and Jan Jennings. American Vernacular Design, 1870-1940. Ames, Iowa: Iowa State University Press, 1988.
- Gowans, Alan. Styles and Types of North American Architecture. New York: Harper Collins, 1992.
- Hiebert, Ray Eldon, and Richard K. MacMaster. A Grateful Remembrance: the Story of Montgomery County, Maryland. Rockville, Maryland: Montgomery County Government and the Montgomery County Historical Society, 1976.
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- Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland.
- Martenet, Simon J. Martenet and Bond's Map of Montgomery County, Maryland. Baltimore, Maryland: Simon J. Martenet, 1865; reprint, Rockville, Maryland: Montgomery County Historical Society.
- Tindall, George Brown. America: A Narrative History. 2 vols. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc., 1984.

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MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Richard Waters Property

SURVEY NO.: M:15-78 (PACS D2.22)

ADDRESS: 3838 Bell Road, Burtonsville, Montgomery County

Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data Sheet

Historic Context:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period Theme (s):

11. Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

2. Architecture

RESOURCE TYPE:

Category (see Section 3 of survey form):

Building

Historic Environment (urban, suburban, village, or rural):

Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

Dwelling

Known Design Source (write none if unknown):

None

Preparer  
P.A.C. Spero & Company  
October 1996



CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

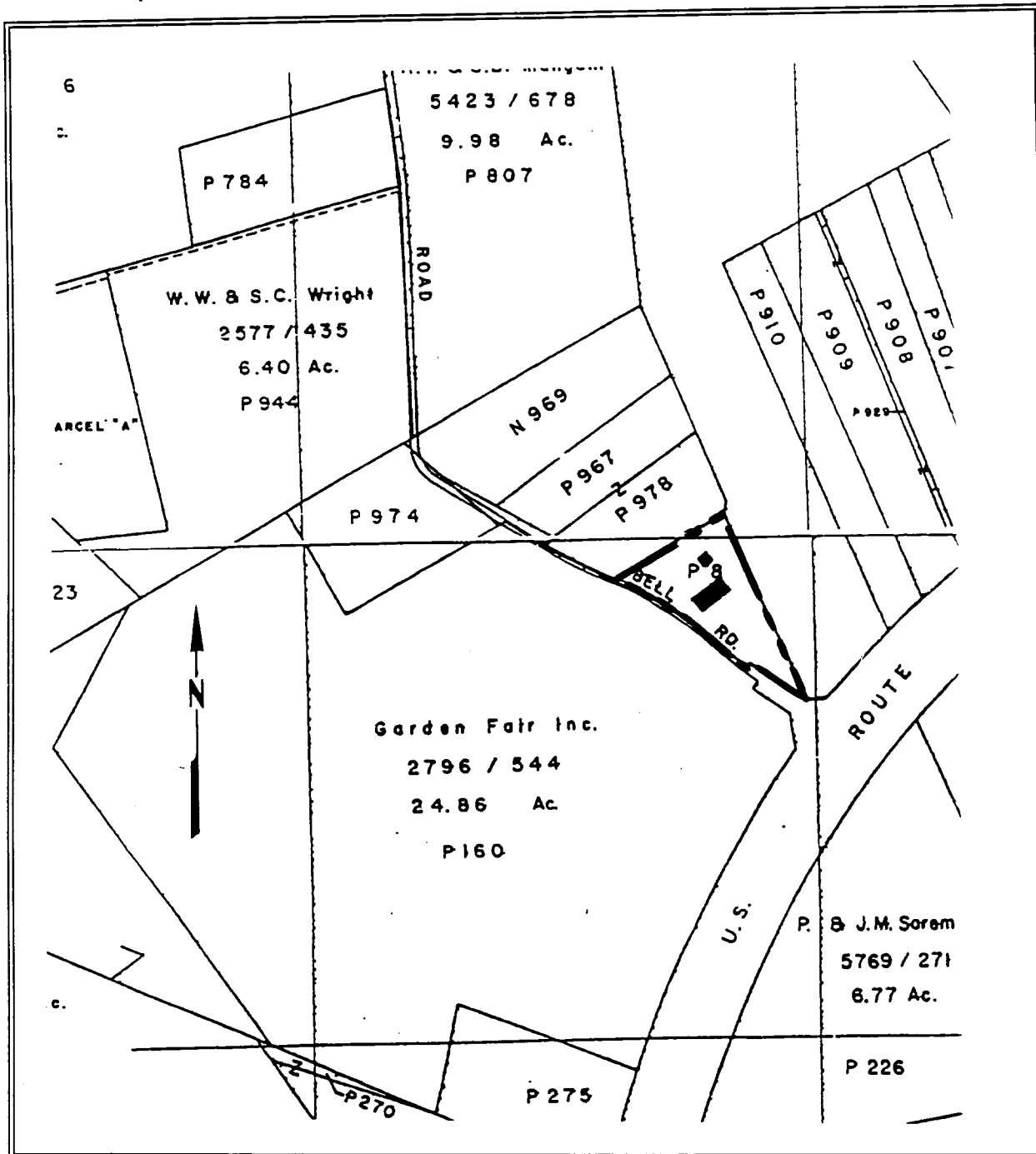
RESOURCE NAME: Richard Waters Property

REVIEW NO.: M:15-78 (PACS D2.22)

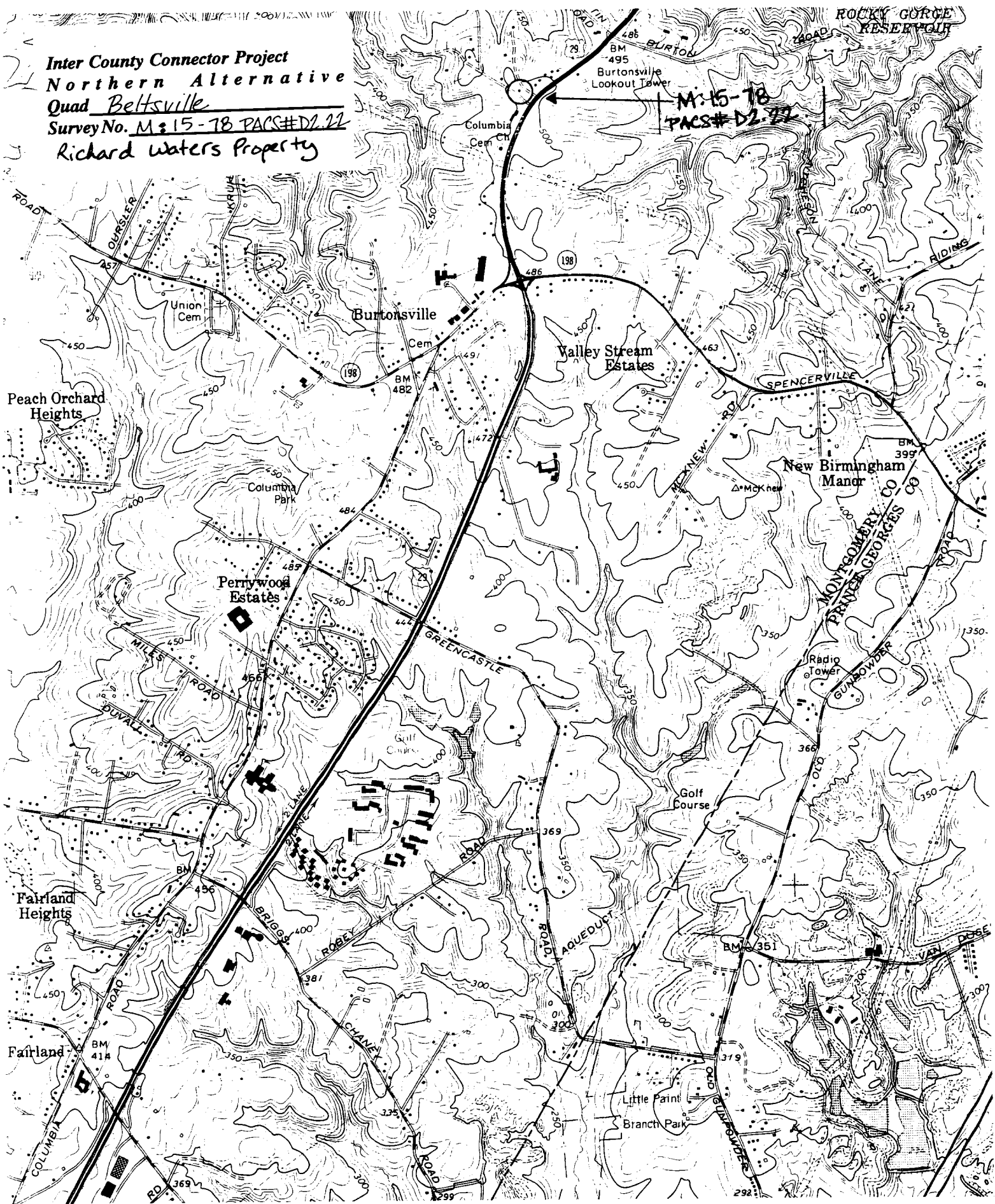
ADDRESS: 3838 Bell Road, Burtonsville, Montgomery County

## 10. Geographical Data (Continued)

### Resource Sketch Map:



Inter County Connector Project  
Northern Alternative  
Quad Beltsville  
Survey No. M:15-78 PACS#D2.22  
Richard Waters Property





M: 15-18

Richard Watson Property

Montgomery, W, MD

PAC. Sp. 10 & 11

11/95

PAC. Sp. 10 & 11

40.00 Chesapeake Ave 7/92

61115 MD 21214

3832 Bell Rd. South Gate & Young

1/44



M. 15, 18

Richard Walter Property

111 E. 1st Street, W. MD

P.A.C. Spence & Co

11/95

P.A.C. Spence & Co

111 E. 1st Street, W. MD

111 E. 1st Street, W. MD

111 E. 1st Street, W. MD

11/95



W. 15. 78

Pickard Station, Port...

W. 15. 78

P.H.C. Sp. 1 & 2

11/75

P.H.C. Sp. 1 & 2

40 m. Pk. on peak, Port...

11/75

3838 Bull Pk., East Canada

3. 1. 4





M-10-13

Excluded under Property

Northampton Co, MD

PAC, Expenditure

11195

PAC, Expenditure

10 W. Chesapeake Ave. No. 2

Smith, MD 5704

3838 B. Rd., Suit

11195